

## Message Text

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71

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 COME-00 INT-08 OPIC-12 L-03 SS-15

NSC-10 SCEM-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 DRC-01 /103 W

----- 023596

R 061430Z SEP 73

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2959

INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L JOHANNESBURG 0807

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EMIN, SF

SUBJECT: REACTION TO REVISION OF MINE AGREEMENTS

REF: LUSAKA 1612

1. SUMMARY: ACTION OF GRZ IN ARBITRARILY REVISING MINING AGREEMENTS IS NUMBER ONE TOPIC IN JOHANNESBURG MINING CIRCLES BUT SURPRISINGLY LITTLE PRESS COVERAGE. AFTER INTIMATE TALKS TOP MANAGEMENT ANGLO, R.S.T. AND LONRHO, (PROTECT ALL SOURCES) MINERALS OFFICER MURCHISON BELIEVES COMPANIES INVOLVED WILL NOT BACK DOWN ON INITIAL DECISION TO REFUSE TO CONTINUE UNDER "REVISED" AGREEMENT AND LONRHO WILL NOT REPEAT NOT OFFER TO MANAGE ZAMBIAN MINES.

2. WHILE ANGLO PRIMARILY INTERESTED REDEMPTION ZIMCO BONDS, TWO DIRECTORS STATED CONCESSION TO GRZ "RECKLESS GRAB FOR MINES BY ILLITERATE POLITICIANS" COULD SET A PATTERN FOR REST OF BLACK AFRICA. KEY PERSONNEL UNLIKELY WILLING REMAIN ZAMBIA EVEN IF ANGLO DOES NOT TRANSFER THEM. ANGLO PLANS STOP ALL DISBURSEMENTS NOT COVERED BY NCCM DEPOSITIS AT END OF OCTOBER. FORMER CHIEF GEOLOGIST ZAMBIA, NOW AT JOHANNESBURG HEADQUARTERS, SAYS EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES AT MUNAXI ON "GO SLOW" BASIS.

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3. R.S.T. JOHANNESBURG APPEARS LESS WELL INFORMED THAN ANGLO,

BUT EXPRESSED GREAT CONCERN AND PREDICTED 35 PERCENT TRANSFER OR RESIGNATION REQUESTS FROM ZAMBIA MANAGEMENT AND TOP TECHNICAL PERSONEL. REGIONAL MANAGER SAID HE ONLY SURPRISED AT TIMING OF REVISION AS HE EXPECTED AT LEAST FIVE YEARS BETWEEN " THE 51 PERCENT GRAB AND A TINAL TAKEOVER."

4. LONRHO MANAGING DIRECTOR SAID COMPANY NOT INTERESTED ZAMBIA VENTURE DESPITE ROWLAND'S DISLIKE ANGLO. HE PREDICTED EAST EUROPEAN QUASI-GOVERNMENT COMPANIES WILL BE ONLY GROUP TO GAIN ANYTHING FROM PRESENT SITUATION.  
LUTKINS

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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